The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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All that is human must retrogrado if we do not advance. —Gibbon.

WHOLE NO. 1143 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1933 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 22, NO. 52

Miss Perkins' Appointment Displeases Labor, Green Says

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor "can never become reconciled" to the selection of Miss Frances Perkins to the position of Secretary of Labor in the President Roosevelt's Cabinet, declared William Green, president of the Federation, in a statement after it was officially announced that Miss Perkins had been chosen for that position.

Mr. Green's statement said:

"The officers and members of the American Federation of Labor are keenly disappointed over President-elect Roosevelt's selection of a Secretary of Labor.

"Labor has consistently contended that the Department of Labor should be what its name implies and that the Secretary of Labor should be representative of Labor, one who understands Labor, labor's problems, labor's psychology, collective bargaining, industrial relations and one who enjoys the confidence of Labor.

"In the opinion of Labor the newly appointed Secretary of Labor does not meet these qualifications.

"Labor can never become reconciled to the selection made."

A. F. OF L. GREAT HELP TO FEDERAL WORKERS

By HENRY W. STRICKLAND
Industrial Secretary, Railway Mail Association

Now that the drive in the Senate to impose additional wage cuts upon Government workers has been defeated, it is appropriate that acknowledgment should be made of the great assistance rendered to the Government employes in this hard-fought battle, by the American Federation of Labor. Not only did this help, in time of greatest need, benefit the members of the affiliated organizations of Government employes, but was of equal benefit to all other Government workers as well. A fundamental principle of wage and working standards was involved; and as always in such instances, the A. F. of L. fought for the maintenance of high standards.

The war was made under the personal direction of President Green, who kept in daily touch with the situation, and who left no effort undone to stop the determined and well organized drive in the Senate to still further beat down wages of postal employees and other Government workers. President Green personally sent letters of protest against the proposed additional wage cut to each Senator, pointing out in clear and emphatic logic that to further cut the wages of Government workers would accomplish nothing more than to aggravate and prolong the depression, when the country needs most, above all else, greater buying power on the part of workers. He also called and presided over a conference of the officers of the various affiliated organizations where careful plans were made to coordinate resistance to the attack.

Then in addition to these things President Green and Secretary Morrison directed that the Federation's experienced and influential legislative committee should devote its entire time to the fight for the time being and actively work with the officers of the affiliated organizations in interviewing all Senators. How much this assistance was needed and how valuable it proved to be is best shown by the fact that on the crucial vote to make the wage cut 10 per cent, instead of the present $1-a per cent, it was defeated only by five votes—44 to 39. Three votes the other way and the added cut would have carried.

Again, as at many times in the past, has the close relationship and interdependence of Government workers with the Labor movement been demonstrated. The old idea that employes of the Federal Government, organized independently, were self sufficient unto themselves; their problems and their fights were not related to those of organized industrial workers, has long been exploded. We know that every postal worker feels a sense of deep gratitude for the great assistance rendered by the American Federation of Labor in this fight to maintain decent wage and working standards.

BANKER URGES EQUITABLE WEALTH DISTRIBUTION

$500,000,000 Federal Jobless Relief Fund, Unemployment and Old-Age Pensions, and High Income and Inheritance Taxes Included in Program to "Save the Rich."

Washington.—A drastic program to save the rich on the one hand and benefit the masses on the other was advocated by Marriner S. Eccles, a banker of Ogden, Utah, before the Senate Finance Committee.

Appearing in the committee's survey of economic conditions and remedies for the depression, Mr. Eccles, who described himself as a capitalist, urged a five-point program, including relief grants, greater public works expenditures, the domestic allotment farm relief plan, refunding of the railroad debt and the settlement of war debts with cancellation preferable.

He advocated giving the States outright $500,000,000 of Federal funds on a per capita basis to meet unemployment relief needs for the rest of this year. He said Government funds for construction activities should be increased to $3,500,000,000 for public works loans at low interest rates.

Mr. Eccles urged a future policy calling for a more equitable distribution of wealth production through a unification of the banking system under the supervision of the Federal Reserve Bank, and high income and inheritance taxes to control capital accumulation.

A national child labor law, minimum wage, unemployment and old-age pension law and a national planning board to coordinate public and private activities in the economic system were held essential.

As further steps, he said, the Government should rigidly control all financial issues, private and foreign, and all transportation and communication facilities.

"Such measures as I have proposed may frighten the people who possess wealth," Mr. Eccles explained. "However, they should feel assured that my program is to save the rich, not soak the rich."

NEW PLAN TO BOOST COTTON PRICES BY LAW

Washington.—A new plan for raising cotton prices by offering shares in a huge Government pool to Southern cotton growers who agree to slash production was passed by the Senate and House of Representatives.

The bill puts in the hands of a six-member board in the Department of Agriculture all Government-financed cotton. This includes the 1,500,000 bales owned by the Farm Board's cooperative and 710,000 bales held by the Agricultural Department as collateral on seed and crop production loans.

Growers agreeing to cut their 1933 cotton output at least thirty per cent would receive an option on a share of the pool equivalent to their reduction. The option would carry the price at which the cotton is procured by the board from the other Government agencies. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation would furnish the funds.

The board would dispose of the cotton by March 1, 1935. The cotton industry would benefit by any price increase after deducting the carrying charges.

New Zealand Sets Up Wheat Pool to Protect Growers

Wellington, New Zealand.—The New Zealand Government issued special regulations under the Board of Trade Act for establishing a Wheat Purchase Board to have complete control of wheat dealings throughout New Zealand.

Mr. Masters, the Minister for Commerce, said the effect of the regulations was to meet the position which had arisen through Australia and Canada having a very low prices for wheat in the world's markets and the probability of a substantial increase in acreage from the coming harvest.

Mr. Masters pointed out that the regulations provided for the formation and operation of a compulsory pool so that growers might receive the average for their product based upon the New Zealand home consumption value—approximately 4 shillings 3 pence to 4 shillings 6 pence per bushel—and the export value of probably not more than 2 shillings 6 pence per bushel.

Unless some action was taken, he added, prices would probably fall to levels far below the cost of production.

Shoe Workers Strike; Shorter Hours and Higher Wage Asked

Chicago, Ill.—Employes of three Chicago shoe factories—the Myer Rudolph Co., Fashion Built Co., and the Irving Shoe Co.—went on strike for the 40 hour week and an increase of 20 per cent in their present wage scale. The strikers said 48 hours is the regular time, but in busy seasons, which include Sunday work, the stretch is 72 and even 80 hours.

FEDERAL EMPLOYES HAIL DEFEAT OF NEW PAY CUT

Washington.—The definite rejection by the Senate and House conferees of the threatened 5 per cent reduction amendment to the Treasury-Post Office appropriation bill, and the approval of the conferees' action by the House of Representatives was declared to be a great victory for Federal workers by John Arthur Shaw, president of the American Federation of Government Employes. The amendment, sponsored by Senator Bratton of New Mexico, would have made it mandatory for Government officials to make five per cent cuts in salaries, wages and fees for all other compulsory payless furloughs or the dismissal of a large number of Government employes.

The action of the national legislators in refusing to impose further wage reductions on Government employes is the result of the drive to end the vicious practice of wage cutting must come to an end," Mr. Shaw declared.

"It is a matter for patriotic satisfaction for Government employes for the Government to set the leadership in calling a halt on this vicious practice."

Campaign for Union Print Shops

Wilmington, Del.—Plans for a campaign to increase the demand for the products of printing shops employing union labor were made at a conference here of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Typographical Union conference. About 25 local unions were represented. The conference pointed out that a national planning board to coordinate public and private activities in the economic system is held essential.

Labor Beats Convict Lease Bill

Little Rock, Ark.—A convict lease bill before the Arkansas Legislature was badly defeated as the result of the opposition of organized labor, represented by the Joint Legislative Committee, composed of the legislative representatives of the Arkansas State Federation of Labor and the railroad Brotherhoods.

LEHMAN ASKS MINIMUM PAY FOR WOMEN, MINORS

New York Governor Says Some Employers Have Cut Pay to $4 Per Week—Claims Legislation Is Necessary to Secure Fair Wage Standards.

Albany, N. Y.—In a special message to the Legislature, Gov. Lehman urged the immediate enactment of legislation to establish a minimum wage for women and minors in industrial employment.

"The evidence is overwhelming that, especially as to women and children, the depression has been seized upon by some short-sighted and selfish employers to pay wages unreasonably low and not at all commensurate with the value of the service rendered," the message said.

"Instances have come to my attention of the payment to women of wages as low as $4 for a full work week.

Cut-Throat Competition

"Undoubtedly, all of us are touched by the human appeal of such instances of exploitation, but of at least equal importance under present circumstances are the economic consequences of such cut-throat competition.

"I speak from personal knowledge of these conditions in the needle-work industry, in which I have frequently served as mediator, and can testify to the disastrous effects upon that industry itself of a return to sweatshop conditions which one had hoped had forever been banished many years ago.

Wages Below Decent Subsistence

"I am advised by the Department of Labor that in a varying degree the evils of reckless wage reductions below decent levels of subsistence are showing themselves in many other widely diversified trades employing women. Such unfair trade practices are inimical to recovery.

"They prevent stabilization of industry; they are a source of unfair competition to firms who seek to maintain decent standards; they depress prices, whereby goods become cheaper and cheaper while the great masses are less and less able to buy; eventually they add to unemployment.

Bottom Pay Level Asked

"Even the most conscientious and progressive employer is forced frequently to lend himself to the policy of paying inadequate wages from fear of the unrestricted pressure of his less responsible competitors.

"I am confident I voice the needs of industry in urging the necessity of action to establish a level of wages so as to avoid the continuous downward spiral of price reductions followed by lower purchasing power and higher unemployment.

Legal Restriction Necessary

"This situation can and must be dealt with by law. The evils to which I have referred can be avoided by adequate machinery for the effective regulation and enforcement of minimum fair-wage standards for women and children. For these are peculiarly subject to exploitation.

"Such machinery will, in effect, prevent unfair competition by the worst and least conscionable employers. The proposal to which I invite the Legislature's attention has the full support of labor administrators, or economists of the middle road, I should compel as It has been tested by experience."

Gov. Lehman's message brought a flood of comment from many executives. A number came from manufacturers in the metropolitan district of New York, fearful of being a handship the minimum wage system would be a help to industry.

School Attendance to 15 Years Urged by N. Y. Labor Leaders

Albany, N. Y.—Immediate passage of the Desmond-Bernhardt bill raising the age of compulsory school attendance from 14 to 15 years was urged by labor leaders and social workers at the hearing on the bill before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Dr. Abraham Lefkovits, representing the American Federation of Labor, declared that if the Nation were to avoid "mass suicide," it should compel as much education as possible.

The only opposition came from representatives of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Labor Department Collects Large Sum in Wage Claims

New York.—Wage earners last year collected $1,000,000 from the New York State Department of Labor a total of $202,106 which was denied them by greedy and dishonest employers. The wage claim collections, which were made by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Welfare, showed an increase during 1932 of $80,557 over 1931.

From May 20 to September 10, the bureau adjusted 933 wage claims against summer hotels and collected $30,950 for claimants, that being the largest amount ever collected by the State Labor Department in hotel wage claims in a single season.

Evansville Labor Protests Closing of Library Stations

Evansville, Ind.—Decision by the library board to close seven local library stations as an "economy measure" brought a sharp protest from the Central Labor Union. The central body declared that closing of the stations would deprive hundreds of families of library facilities, place children of the underprivileged at a disadvantage and add to unemployment by the dismissal of library employes. The decision justified public condemnation, the central body added.

Agreement Made in Norway To Maintain Wage Standards

Oslo.—All the agreements made after the three months' strike of 1931 have been renewed for a year, with no cuts made in them, by the agreement signed between national organizations of the workers and employers. The agreement contains provisions for the automatic setting of wages on the basis of the cost of living index figures of living at the end of 1932. By virtue of this clause, wages would have been cut in some cases but it was agreed not to put this reduction in effect.

Unemployed Fight Gypsy Moth

Harrisburg, Pa.—Unemployed men paid by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture from an allotment of money by the State Emergency Relief Board are making a sweeping attack against the gypsy moth in Pennsylvania.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF RAILROADS IS FAVORED

Samuel Untermeyer Believes They Could Be Bought for Ten Billion Dollars — Condemns Extravagant Salaries of Railway Executives.

Los Angeles, Calif.—Government ownership and operation of the railroads was urged as the best solution of the railroad problem by Samuel Untermeyer of New York in an address here before the University Club.

"It should be possible to acquire the roads at this time," he said, "well within 10,000,000,000, which is at least 12,000,000,000 above their valued based upon present market quotations. It is, I believe, above what the Interstate Commerce Commission would be likely to appraise their physical value based on the reduced valuation of the average of the past few years."

Mr. Untermeyer vigorously condemned the outlandish salaries paid railroad executives and placed responsibility on the bankers for a large portion of the difficulties in which the railroad owners find themselves.

"At the close of 1932," he said, "there were over 1,000 railroad executives still receiving, after reductions due to the depression, salaries ranging from $17,000 per year down and many of them unnecessary.

"This probably largely accounts for the failure thus far to make more substantial progress toward rehabilitation of the roads under the transportation act.

"That interest, supported by the banks to whom they largely owe their positions, is certainly to be a factor in opposition to Government ownership although the useful executives would not suffer from the change of ownership, with the possible exception of the many who are grossly overpaid."

"Not the least advantage of Government ownership," he continued, "will be the scrapping of the fallacy of applying the anti-trust laws to a natural regulated monopoly such as the railroads. The law is absurd as the economic waste involved in the application of those laws to our natural resources. It should end the whole fiasco at the same time."

Philadelphia Banker Convicted Of $492,000 Embezzlement

Philadelphia, Pa.—Alexander D. Robinson, former vice-president and cashier of the closed Northwestern Trust Co., was convicted of embezzlement and misapplication of $492,000 of the bank's funds.

Judge James J. Gordon, before whom Robinson was tried, said: "The verdict is just. It is a solemn warning that should be burned into the consciences of all banking officers of all grades that a betrayal of their high trust in the handling of the people's money will bring a swift and stire reckoning."

5,000 Washington School Children Undernourished

Washington.—The House of Representatives Committee on the District of Columbia reported favorably the bill sponsored by Representative Bolton of Ohio which appropriates $40,000 for hot lunches for undernourished school children in the nation's capital.

Representative McLeod declared there are 5,000 school children in the District who are undernourished and on starvation rations. The $40,000 fund would be administered by the Board of Education.

Jobless Work for Their Keep In Federal Forest Service

Roseburg, Oreg.—The Douglas County Court and the Umpqua National Forest Service maintain a "cooperative relief camp" near here where a maximum of 50 jobless single men are provided with food and shelter in return for hard manual labor with pick and shovel until they can find jobs. No wages are paid. The quarters are crude and the food simple. Mr. S. A. Moore, a forest service employe and manager of the camp, says the men have caused no trouble. As fast as they find jobs with wages their places are filled with new jobless recruits driven to camp by hunger.

Australian Labor Official Placed on Industrial Court

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.—The Queensland Government appointed W. J. Riordan, secretary of the Queensland State branch of the Australian Workers' Union, a member of the Queensland Industrial Court.

"Mr. Riordan has been a lifelong advocate of arbitration and no man has done more to preserve industrial peace," declared the Daily Standard, Queensland labor paper. "Arbitration is the declared policy of the A. W. U., but Mr. Riordan has played a prominent part in shaping that policy.

"When big industrial cases, such as the basic wage and standard hours cases, have come before the Industrial Court, Mr. Riordan has invariably been chosen as leading advocate for the combined unions.

"As an advocate he is noted for the careful preparation of his case, the wide extent and accuracy of his knowledge, and his restrained and dignified style of argument. The same qualities will make him a valuable member of the Bench."

Jobless Relief List Jumps In New York and New Jersey

New York.—The number of persons receiving State unemployment relief jumped in January in New York and New Jersey, the emergency relief administrations of the two States announced. In New York State, a total of 279,473 families, a gain of 13 per cent over the previous month, received home and work relief. The 279,473 families included about 1,100,000 individuals. The report for February will show further gains in the number aided, as the State relief organization received $6,100,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for use during that month.

In New Jersey, new applicants at the rate of nearly 1,500 a day applied for help in January. There was an increase of 15 per cent in the number given State aid, and at the beginning of February, 421,082 persons were on State relief rolls. The New Jersey Emergency Relief Administration predicted that 700,000 persons will be on the rolls in March.

STARVATION WAGE PAID BY N. Y. EMPLOYERS

Consumers League Declares Labor Exploiters Use Charity Relief to Lower Pay of Women—$5.50 for Sixty Hours and $10.34 for Full Week's Work Found on Payrolls.

New York.—Ruthless employers are driving wages down to starvation standards and rely on charity relief to pay the difference between their garbage-can rates and what it costs to keep alive, according to a statement by the Consumers League of New York.

The League derived its information from the examination of employers' applications for workers filed with the State Employment Service and with such private exchanges as the Young Women's Christian Association and the Girls' Service League.

Corroborative evidence was found in the social service case records of a number of hospitals. The report was made by Helene P. Gans.

$10.34 For Full Week's Work

"In the richest city in the world women are being paid 12½ cents for making a dress, while the finished garment gets 3 cents, or 25 cents for the labor on the completed dress," the statement said. "The average wage offered for a full week of 49½ hours to 760 experienced women workers in the industrial field from July, 1932, to December was $10.34."

$5.50 for Sixty Hours

The earnings of piece workers, according to the report, are even lower than the weekly average. In 1932 in one case a woman received 21 cents for putting linings in seventy-two pairs of slippers, or 3 cents, or $1.05 a day. It was said, she had to handle 720 pairs of slippers in nine hours, or one every forty-five seconds.

"One finisher on dresses, supporting her two children and a jobless husband, gets paid 4 cents a dress," the report continued. "She averages between $5.50 and $6.50 for a sixty-hour week. And the usual pay for finishers today is 8 cents a day."

$4 for 48-Hour Week

"A typical case is that of an expert needle-worker, a mother whose child suffered a physical breakdown; her average weekly earnings were less than $4 for a 48-hour week," the report said. "With the help of the hospital social service department she was sent to a sanatorium for a two months' rest."

Clerical Workers Average $11.39

Turning to clerical workers, the report declared that the average weekly wage of 141 women employed in offices and stores was $11.39, but there were many instances of wages below the average. A dentist offered $10 for an assistant who was able to "work, answer the telephone, receive patients, assist at the chair, sterilize instruments, type bills and dust."

A lawyer was on record at several agencies who asked for an expert typist with a knowledge of German for $8 a week. Another, a manufacturer's secretary, a college graduate who does court stenography, got $7.50.

Canlee Workers Paid $7.84

"The junior workers, 17 to 21, many of them the sole support of the family, are in the lowest paid group, according to the report. "The average paid in February from May to August, 1932, to 321 girls was $7.84, with the rate dropping steadily."

Minimum Wage Law

To remedy the deplorable situation revealed by the report the Consumers League has redoubled its efforts for minimum wage legislation. "At this time," the report said, "the employer who tries to pay his workers a living wage is helpless; he must produce as cheaply as his competitor or his customer will undercut him by paying lower wages.

"The worker furnishes a large portion of the purchasing power of the Nation, and this is lessened as wages are reduced, so that even if the manufacturer is able to produce at low cost there are relatively few who can buy. A legal minimum wage guarantees him a market as well as protection against his wage-cutting competitor."

Louisville & Nashville Railroad Asks 2-Cent Fare

Washington.—The Louisville & Nashville Railroad applied to the Interstate Commerce Commission for permission to establish, for a period of six months, reductions in passenger fares between all points on its lines. The present rate fares are on the following basis: one-way fares, good in coaches only, 2 cents per mile; one-way fares, good in sleeping cars, 3 cents per mile.

The request was referred to the position recently taken by a committee representing most of the railroads in opposing reductions at this time.

In its application the Louisville & Nashville declared that passenger fare reductions represented its only hope of retaining its passenger traffic and stated that in 1932, and particularly in the last few years, the number of passengers using its lines had steadily decreased.

No Basis for Wage Slashes, Anthracite Miners Declare

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Operators have not made out a case to justify reductions in the wages of anthracite coal miners, officials of the United Mine Workers of America said in a statement replying to an argument for lower wages made by Ralph Bogran, president of District No. 1; Michael Harpsoody, president of District No. 7, and Thomas Kennedy, international secretary-treasurer, signed the statement.

New Mooney Trial Asked

Chicago.—The Chicago Federation of Labor asked Judge Louis H. Ward of the Superior Court at San Francisco and District Attorney Matthew Brady to grant Thomas J. Mooney a new trial on the remaining indictment against him growing out of the San Francisco Preparedness Day parade bombing of 1916. The Federation also asked that Mooney be present before the court when motion for a new trial is argued on March 25. Frank P. Walsh and Jere Gallagher will present arguments for a new trial.

Morrison Opposes Drastic Cut Demanded by Anthracite Operators

A. F. of L. Secretary and George Rublee, Operators' Representative on Reference Board, Deadlock—Rublee Favors Wage Slash—Morrison Declares Wage Reduction Would Prevent the Miners from Maintaining "Even a Bare Physical Subsistence for Themselves and Their Families."

Washington.—The controversy over wages in the anthracite coal fields between the United Mine Workers of America and the anthracite operators remained deadlocked by the inability of the Board of Reference consisting of Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, representing the United Mine Workers, and George Rublee, a Washington attorney, representing the operators, to reach an agreement.

The controversy was precipitated last year when the operators proposed a 35 per cent reduction in the miners' wage rates. After prolonged conference between the miners and operators, the miners rejected the proposal. The matter was then referred to Mr. Morrison and Mr. Rublee as a board of reference.

Existing Wages

Extensive hearings were held, after which Mr. Morrison and Mr. Rublee endeavored to adjust the controversy. Mr. Rublee maintained the operators' contention that conditions in the coal industry warranted a wage rate cut in order to enable the operators to meet competition from other fuels and that the cut was also warranted by the alleged reduction in the miners' cost of living.

Earnings Below Decent Standards

Both of these contentions were disputed by Mr. Morrison. "The trade unions," he said, "do not accept the cost of living theory as a basis from which wage rates shall be calculated." He pointed out that as a result of idle time the miners were only employed 150 days in 1932, for which they were paid $894 and inside laborers $793. With the authoritative minimum cost of living budget for 1932 placed at $1,481, Mr. Morrison declared that the earnings of the miners were $537 less than the amount necessary to provide the necessities of life." These figures, he said, completely demolished the operators' underlying contention for wage reductions.

Sert-Labor Philosophy

"With earnings of the miners at $88 a month in 1931," Mr. Morrison said, "the operators propose a reduction of 35 per cent, which would cut the miners' earnings to approximately $57 a month. Surely this proposal is made without any comprehension of the consequences to the living standards of the miners."

He declared that the operators' proposal to balance their budget by slashing wages is an intolerable injustice which "has come down to us from the sweat-shops of the days when labor was the badge of the slave and the serf."

Big Anthracite Profits

On the question of the contention that their alleged heavy losses during the past year justified the wage reduction, Mr. Morrison said that "when during prosperity enormous profits are made and frequently dissipated by extra dividends and stock dividends of over 100 per cent, then the anthracite industry can not be permitted to throw the burden of depression.

Wage Cut Unthinkable

"The point has been reached in the deflation of earnings of anthracite miners below which further decrease in earnings of employes through reduction in rates of pay is unthinkable," Mr. Morrison declared.

"If the request of the operators were granted, the deflated payroll of the anthracite industry would not be sufficient and would not afford opportunity for the anthracite mine workers to purchase even the physical existence for themselves and their families.

Wages and Prices

"The demand of the operators that such a wage reduction be granted as a basis for price reductions at the mines on the theory that such reductions would be carried down to the retail consumer, and thus stimulate an increased demand for and the extension of the market of anthracite is unsound. It is equivalent to assuming that the present low point of an unprecedented depression is to represent our standards of living and our basis of industrial and commercial activities in the future.

Recovery Depends on Jobs for Jobless

"The claim that a reduction in the wage scale will stimulate production and increase employment opportunities for the miners is not borne out by the experience in other industries. Such measures have failed to stimulate trade activities. Prevailing conditions are sufficient proof of this.

"Economic recovery, as a matter of fact, depends upon the restoration of purchasing power to the twenty or fifteen millions of American workers of all classes who are now without employment. In them this is done the demand for anthracite will be revived, old markets will be restored, and new markets acquired."

Fallacy of Antilabor Policies

"In the period of so-called prosperity which preceded immediately the present collapse," Mr. Morrison continued, "business men devoted their time feverishly to plans for the expansion of business. In financing these plans they dealt in luxurities and risked the money of investors on values that were only in prospect and then on fictitious values in fact.

"It is a strange anomaly that business men will direct every energy and incur heavy financial risks to raise money to expand their business and on the other hand oppose with all their power the efforts or demands of the workers for improved conditions of labor, ignoring the fact that the increasing ability of the workers to constitute the masses to buy commodities is the only basis from which upon expansion of business may be profoundly built.

Standard Wages and Wage Increases

"There should be inaugurated in American business practice the philosophy of the payment of wages and wage increases as a part of the permanent structure of business.

"It would be fortunate for all interests involved if trade unions received the cooperation from employers which would enable labor to develop its full economic power.

"The ability of labor through its economic power to stabilize, maintain, and steadily improve standards of living and life of the masses of the people would effect capital and credit resources into fruitful channels."

Prosperity for Anthracite Industry

In concluding his statement, Mr. Morrison declared that "what is of fundamental importance to the future of the anthracite industry is harmony in the meeting of the operators and United Mine Workers of America in a spirit of cooperation for its permanent development."

Referring to bring this about, he recommended "the plan proposed by the Anthracite Conciliation Board. This plan called for an emergency inquiry by the Interstate Commerce Commission into the unjustifiable rates of anthracite freight rates, which absorb a considerable part of the miners' profits and by wholesale and retail consumers of anthracite equalize the difference between the operators and Mine Workers, to work for the improvement of the industry.

The work and duties of the joint conciliation board, he said, is primarily an economic council, Mr. Morrison said, would include:

1. The recognition of the impossibility of effecting stability and prosperity in the anthracite industry by wage reductions.

2. The striving for conditions in the industry which will give a proper return to capital invested therein and will protect and improve the living standards of those employed in the industry.

3. The taking such steps as may be necessary to lessen the prodigious number of fatalities and injuries now occurring in the industry.

4. Promoting a sales policy which will destroy the waste of competition and yield the best returns.

5. Providing for scientific readjustment of coal freight rates.

6. Protecting the industry by opposing all efforts and legislation encouraging the enactment of legislation which may be detrimental to the best interests of the industry.

7. Uniting in every practical way for the betterment of the industry and the increased sale and consumption of its product.

Miss Frances Perkins Appointed Secretary of Labor by Roosevelt

Washington. — President Roosevelt announced the appointment of Miss Frances Perkins to the position of Secretary of Labor in his Cabinet.

Miss Perkins is a sociologist and welfare worker. She graduated from Holyoke College in 1902 and continued her college work at the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University. She is executive secretary of the Consumers' League of New York from 1910 to 1912, director investigations for the New York State Factory Commission in 1913 and 1914. She was appointed industrial commissioner of New York State by Gov. Alfred E. Smith, and held that position under Gov. Herbert Lehman.

She is the author of a number of books, including "Life Hazards from Factory Flies in New York Factories," "A Plan for Maternity Care," "Women As Employees," and "Legal Exemptions Under the Workmen's Compensation Jurisdiction."

Foreign Workers in Germany Must Have Government Permit

Berlin, Germany.—Foreigners desiring to work in Germany must have a government permit under recently inaugurated regulations, according to a statement by Dr. Douglas Brauns, noted commercial attache of the United States Government.

The regulations apply to all foreign workers above the age of 18 years, with the exception of apprentices, workers in marine and inland water transportation, employes whose yearly income is above 700 marks a month, and a few other special classes.

Permits to employ foreigners may be granted to employers according to the needs of the German business situation and the employment market in Germany. The permissions have a maximum length of twelve months for both employe and employer.

Rail Unions Seek Pension Law Applying to All the Railroads

New York.—Alexander F. Whitney, chairman of the Railway Labor Executives Association, announced in a statement that the railroad brotherhood standard railway unions intend to work vigorously for the early enactment by Congress of legislation for a joint contributory plan of retirement insurance for railroad employes.

"Under the plan proposed by the standard railway unions," he said, "the pension plans of the railroads would be absorbed and all the roads would be brought in.

"Every employe who reaches retirement age or who is accidentally injured or suffers disability and is unable to follow his occupation would participate in the plan.

"The railroad workers are serving the public well and deserve the adoption of retirement insurance that would relieve these workers and their old age would benefit the public as well as the men themselves.

"While it is true that the cost of the pension plan may in the aggregate be greater than the present plans now in effect, our proposal would have the employes bear 50 per cent of the cost, to be deducted from the payrolls. That would greatly lighten the burden to the railroads and would enable them to meet so they could meet it without embarrassment."

Ban On Yellow Dog Contract Passed by New York Senate

Albany, N. Y.—The Senate passed unanimously Senator Monahoe's bill to bar yellow dog contracts. The bill is similar to the yellow-dog prohibition in the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law enacted last year by the United States Congress. The Monahoe bill applies to the course of New York State the restrictions which the Norris-LaGuardia bill imposes on Federal courts. Senator Pearsel, Republican leader, voted against it, but the bill passed by a vote of 36 to 12.